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# EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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## In This Issue

FARMERS of the Hoosier State are grateful to Dr. S. T. Thornton of the department of agricultural chemistry at Purdue University, for the development of what is now known as the Purdue system of rapid chemical tests for soils and plants. Since 1934 when distribution of kits containing the necessary equipment for making these tests was begun more than 50,000 samples of Indiana soil have been tested with the advice of extension agents.

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RAISING a calf to exhibit at the Texas Centennial is a matter of grave concern to the whole family. The cover this month shows the three younger Jordan children gazing with envy at big brother J. D. as he brushes the Hereford calf which he hopes will win honors at the centennial livestock show. This promising calf, named Prince, was bred on the Jordan ranch and is being fed out according to the best 4-H club practice. J. D. is only one of thousands of Texas 4-H boys and girls taking an active part in the centennial celebration. They are advertising their 4-H demonstrations, as described in an article from Young County in this issue, as well as producing the finest kind of 4-H products for the exhibit at Dallas.

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SUCCESSFULLY solved by Helen Spaulding, extension clothing specialist in Maine, is the problem of reaching mothers who are unable to join organized home demonstration groups. Her method of solving this riddle, which had piqued home demonstration agents for 5 years, is told in "The Children's Clothing Box."

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PROUD of their demonstrations and inviting the world to see them, many of the 250 4-H boys in Young County, Tex., made and hung attractive signs in conspicuous places along the highways for the passersby to see. This is one way that "Texas 4-H Boys Advertise."

## Contents

	Page
<b>The Purdue Kit - - - -</b>	<b>113</b>
<i>Indiana</i>	
<b>The Children's Clothing Box - - - - -</b>	<b>114</b>
<i>Maine</i>	
<b>Texas 4-H Boys Advertise -</b>	<b>115</b>
<b>Builds Up Soil Fertility -</b>	<b>117</b>
<i>Mississippi</i>	
<b>First Short Course - - -</b>	<b>120</b>
<i>Puerto Rico</i>	
<b>My Point of View - - -</b>	<b>121</b>
<b>Florida Family Makes Record - - - - -</b>	<b>122</b>
<b>4-H Club Members Learn to Conserve Wildlife - -</b>	<b>125</b>
<b>Tree Planting Gets Real Start - - - - -</b>	<b>127</b>
<i>Nebraska</i>	

BEHIND every letter that fails to produce the desired result lies some reason for failure. Unusually successful in writing letters with a punch is County Agent O'Connell of Marshall County, Kans. In his article entitled "Effective Circular Letters", he explains the principles he follows in planning effective letters.

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EIGHT home demonstration agents helped Maria Orcasitas, assistant director of extension work in

## On The Calendar

State 4-H Fair & Country Life Jubilee, Jackson's Mills, W. Va., Sept. 24-29.

Tri-State Fair, Amarillo, Tex., Sept. 21-25.

Twenty-seventh Annual Dairy Cattle Congress, Waterloo, Iowa, Sept. 28-Oct. 4.

Eastern States Exposition, Springfield, Mass., Sept. 20-26.

National Shorthorn Show, Ft. Worth, Tex., Oct. 2-11.

Pacific International Livestock Exposition, Portland, Oreg., Oct. 3-10.

Texas Frontier Centennial Livestock Exposition, Ft. Worth, Tex., Oct. 3-11.

National Dairy Show, Dallas, Tex., Oct. 10-18.

American Royal Livestock Show, Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 17-24.

All-American Swine Exhibit, Dallas, Tex., Oct. 17-25.

Ak-Sar-Ben Stock Show, Horse Show, and Rodeo, Omaha, Nebr., Oct. 25-31.

Annual Outlook Conference, Washington, D. C., Oct. 26-31.

Great Western Livestock Show, Los Angeles, Calif., Nov. 14-21.

Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, Houston, Tex., Nov. 16-18.

International Livestock Exposition, Chicago, Ill., Nov. 28-Dec. 5.

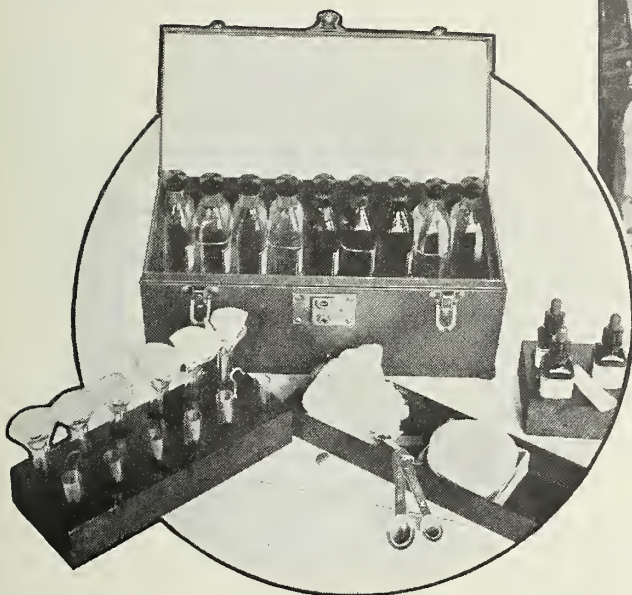
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Puerto Rico, to make a success of the first short course for 4-H club girls held on the island. Not only did the girls enjoy their short course, but so did the women home demonstrators invited to come for the home-demonstration day.

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FARMERS in Coahoma County, Miss., find that it pays to build up the soil fertility of their land. County Agent Harris Barnes "started the ball rolling" when he induced a few farmers to plant legumes as winter cover crops 5 years ago. "Mississippi Delta County Builds Up Its Soil Fertility" tells about his efforts to achieve a balanced agriculture.

The Purdue soil test kit.



M. O. Pence, Purdue extension agronomist, making one of the rapid soil tests.

## The Purdue Kit

Tests 50,000 Soil Samples

SINCE the beginning of distribution of the Purdue kit for making rapid chemical soil and plant tests, which was begun in 1934, more than 50,000 samples of soil from all parts of Indiana have been tested by county agricultural agents, vocational agricultural teachers, extension workers, and the agronomy department at Purdue University.

Previous to 1934 there were several kinds of rapid chemical soil tests being used throughout Indiana. A need was felt very generally for a more uniform method of determining the lime and fertilizer needs of soils, so that interpretation of the results of all soil tests in the Hoosier State might be placed on a more comparable basis. Growing out of this need for such a test adapted to Indiana conditions, Dr. S. F. Thornton, of the department of agricultural chemistry at Purdue, completed development in 1934 of what is now known as the Purdue system of rapid chemical tests for soils and plants. This system incorporated adaptations from numerous rapid soil tests already developed and successfully used in other States during the past decade.

Director J. H. Skinner of the Purdue Agricultural Extension Department appointed a special committee composed of S. F. Thornton, S. D. Conner, and R. R.

Fraser, all university specialists, to make plans and decisions relative to details in the distribution and use of the new soil- and plant-testing equipment. It was in the early part of 1934 that the agronomy department was made responsible for the preparation and distribution of kits containing the necessary equipment for making these tests, with Professor Conner in charge. Professor Conner died in April of this year, and George Enfield, of the agronomy department, is at present taking care of the work formerly done by him. Before any kit is released from the university, the purchaser must receive instructions from the department in charge on the proper use of the equipment. Before the first kits were distributed, county agents received instructions and practiced using them at a series of district conferences. Thus the extension department is assured to a greater degree of reliable soil and plant tests.

By May 1 of this year more than 28,000 soil tests had been made of samples representing 7,500 farms by 68 county agricultural agents, according to a survey conducted in 76 counties of the State at that time. A record form has been developed upon which each test and the fertilizer recommendation are recorded.

Last spring, at the request of 40 county agents, Mr. Enfield held 71 meetings in various parts of the State where more than 3,000 samples of soil were tested and fertilizer recommendations given. This type of service was publicized to farmers as "soil clinics", and more than 1,700 interested information-seeking folks were in attendance. County agents handled all the publicity on the meetings, including news articles, circular letters, radio broadcasts, and general announcements. Several hundred samples of soil were brought to these soil clinics by county agents for people who wished to know something more about their soils but found it impossible to attend the meetings. This was the first year for the Purdue University Agricultural Extension Department to offer Hoosier farmers a soil-clinic service on such an extensive scale.

In Vanderburgh, Posey, and Gibson Counties, better known as the Pocket counties, the Soil Conservation Service officials cooperated with Mr. Enfield in the soil-testing work last spring. Many soil committees were formed which were geographically representative of the counties. These committees brought in numerous samples of soil, and general

recommendations were made for proper analyses of commercial fertilizers. It was the opinion of farmers in that area before tests were made that their soils were deficient in phosphates only. Soil tests pointed out that the farmers were only partly right and that, in addition to the phosphate deficiency, there was also a distinct potash deficiency. The results of these tests enabled hundreds of farmers in that part of the State to purchase correct-analysis fertilizers for the first time. A number of the kits have gone to the Soil Conservation Service for use in the 11 Hoosier camps.

According to Dr. Thornton, the tests were developed originally for plant work but later were adapted for soil tests as well. Because of the dual test that is possible with this testing equipment, fertilizer recommendations may be made from soil tests, and then the plants may be tested for a check-up on results, branding the latter as the "trouble shooter" test. Dr. Thornton states that the soil and plant tests do not supplant any of the information which one may already have on soils but, instead, provide means of obtaining additional material in an economical, rapid way.

At present 72 county agents in the State have soil- and plant-testing kits, and at least that number of kits may be found among vocational agricultural teachers. Mr. Enfield states that there are in excess of 400 kits now in use by county agents, vocational agricultural teachers, gardeners, canners, fertilizer concerns, and florists. Although the policy has been to attempt to confine distribution of the kits to Indiana, 50 kits have been sent to Canada, Honduras, Texas, Michigan, Tennessee, Washington, Kentucky, Ohio, and several other States.

Results from the more than 50,000 soil samples that have been tested, exclusive of samples tested by commercial concerns and by the Soil Conservation Service, have shown that the testing kit is adapted to Indiana conditions, and, further, it has definitely established a uniformity in the testing of soils and plants throughout the State. The increasing use of this equipment will mean not only a saving of thousands of dollars to Hoosier farmers in their purchase of fertilizers of the proper analyses, but it will mean the production of crops of higher yield and better quality that should bring a larger aggregate of money when marketed.

The wide use of this soil- and plant-testing equipment in Indiana can be attributed to the fact that it is rapid, economical in cost, easy to operate, reliably accurate, and adapted to the testing of small fields and areas.

# The Children's Clothing Box

## Brings New Ideas to Maine Mothers

**T**WO THOUSAND Maine women were influenced by the Extension Service last year who would not have been reached except for the fine cooperation of extension agents and local people in setting a good idea to work.

For 5 years home demonstration agents had held meetings on "dressing the children." More and more of those attending adopted the practices taught, but each year the number of new cooperators grew less. The problem was how to reach mothers of young children outside the organized groups. Helen Spaulding, extension clothing specialist, in trying to solve the difficulty, asked this question: "As mothers are unable to come to meetings, why not put children's clothes in traveling cases and send them about the State to visit the homes where mothers can examine them at their convenience?"

Under Miss Spaulding's direction, children's-clothing boxes—one for each home demonstration agent—were prepared at the State office. In them were placed children's garments that were attractive, comfortable, reasonable in price, and easy to make. These included suits and dresses for boys and girls, zipper play outfits for winter weather, and sun suits for summer. Many good patterns were put in each box with mimeographed circulars telling what to do and why.

When the community women met to plan extension work for the year, the home demonstration agent explained the purpose of the children's-clothing box, and usually the local clothing leader would assume responsibility for it.

She would arrange with three or four mothers in different neighborhoods to keep the box in their homes for a few days and to invite the other mothers to come and see it. When all who wished had examined the garments, copied the patterns, and taken the circulars, the clothing leader would send the box to the next community, and so on until the county was served.

The box was returned finally to the home demonstration agent who checked its contents and made the necessary replacements or added new material.

What about results? Well, 310 groups included the children's-clothing box in their program of work for 1935. By the time the 14 boxes had gone a little more than half the rounds, 2,117 mothers had

examined them. They reported that they had cut 4,076 patterns from those which the boxes contained and had made 1,967 garments for their little folks.

Said Agnes Gibbs, home demonstration agent in Cumberland County, "The children's-clothing box has been of more value in interesting mothers of young children in extension work than anything else done this year."

Said Mrs. Emma D. Vose: "Many, many thanks for the patterns which I have had to use. They have certainly helped me and saved money for me in sewing for my children."

Mrs. Jennie Manley said, "I have seen the box of children's garments, and it has been a great help. It is a fine plan to send the box of materials around so that everyone may see it."

A good idea, carefully developed, plus friendly cooperation between extension agents and rural women, solved the problem. The children's-clothing boxes are still traveling.

## Radio Stimulates Discussion

A unique use of an automobile radio was made by A. Rodriguez Colon, agricultural extension agent in Puerto Rico. He had hired a public car with a radio, to attend a farmers' meeting. Forty-nine farmers attended the meeting and heard a radio broadcast on soil erosion by Alberto Correa, extension supervisor, western zone, Puerto Rico. Not satisfied with just having the farmers hear the broadcast, Mr. Colon conducted a discussion with the group, basing the discussion on the talk and using an excellent example of erosion near the meeting place to drive home the point. The best methods of preventing erosion were included in the discussion.

M. F. Barrus, director of extension on the island, commenting on the activity, says: "This method of bringing our radio program to farmers in sections of the island where there are no radios is rather unique, I think, and as the cost is relatively small I consider it a very practical way of enabling our farmers to hear the broadcasts. The discussion, exemplified by local erosion conditions, was also a unique method of combining audible and visual object lessons."

# Texas 4-H Boys Advertise

## Signs Hung in Original Way Tell of Members' Demonstrations



**T**EXAS 4-H club boys in Young County are calling attention to their demonstrations in 1936 by the use of unusual signs hung in conspicuous places along the highways and byways, reports D. A. Adam, Young County agricultural agent, Texas.

Many of the 250 4-H club boys of Young County have added original ideas in hanging the signs in order to attract even more attention to their demonstrations and to further impress the passer-by with the fact that 4-H club boys live on the farm.

The signs, in many cases, are cut in the shape of pigs, steers, or chickens. The signs are 12 by 24 inches with the name of the county and the year printed across the top. In the center is a four-leaf clover, symbol of 4-H club work; and below the clover is printed "To Make the Best Better." At the bottom the name of the club boy and the club to which he belongs are printed.

This original plan of starring 4-H club work was worked out in a discussion of plans for 1936 4-H club work in Young County in a joint meeting of the Young County Agricultural Council and the Young County 4-H Club Council.

In order to have the signs uniform and to save expense to Young County 4-H club members, several civic and county organizations made it possible for every boy who actually began a demonstration to receive a sign free.

To further create interest in this movement, a contest is being sponsored in

Young County with cash prizes to the boy who hangs his sign in the most attractive manner, where the greatest number of people can see it, as well as the most original idea in hanging his sign displaying the Texas Centennial idea.

The winner will be selected from each 4-H club, and then the winners from the clubs will be judged on the basis of each commissioner's precinct, and it is from the four thus selected that the county winner will be chosen.

In going down each designated State highway, as well as almost any byroad in Young County, passers-by can see these signs displayed. If they should stop to see the demonstration, in all cases a 4-H club boy will greet visitors with a smile and an invitation to see his demonstration as well as the records of the progress.

This movement in Young County has given 4-H club work stimulation because of the fact that in order to display a sign a boy must be actually doing the work.

The boys of Young County are proud of having a demonstration to show the world that they are 4-H club members.

### What Is Sheep Club Worth to the Community?

Producing 1,034 sheep, with 214 ewes yet to lamb this year, placing 100 purebred rams in stud service, and furnishing 122 purebred ewes as foundation stock in other clubs or flocks is the 10-year record of the Granville 4-H Sheep Club in McHenry County, N. Dak., a record which demonstrates the value of a constructively organized 4-H club in a community.

The Granville club was organized in 1927, with a membership of seven boys, by S. M. Thorfinnson, then Smith-Hughes instructor in the Granville schools and now agricultural-adjustment agent in Sargent County. Since then 26 boys have completed 2 or more years of work and are no longer members of the club. There are 11 members enrolled in the club this year. Fifteen of the 26 ex-members are still in the sheep business in the community. Two of these ex-members—Milton Trana and Jay Strandberg—have acted as local leaders of the club since Mr. Thorfinnson left the community.

The club has been producing purebred and grade Shropshire sheep. The placing of the 100 purebred rams in the community and adjoining communities has had a very definite influence upon the flocks located there. The 122 purebred ewes sold have helped others to get started with better sheep, some 50 head of these having been purchased this spring by Mr. Thorfinnson for 4-H work in his present county. The boys have sold 321 lambs through regular market channels since the club was first organized. The 15 ex-members now have 151 purebred ewes and 142 grade ewes in their flocks in addition to this year's crop of lambs. Jay Strandberg, now local leader, has the largest flock—35 purebred ewes. The 11 members of the club have 33 purebred ewes and 36 grade ewes besides this year's crop of lambs. Oswald Trana has the largest flock, consisting of 15 purebred ewes.

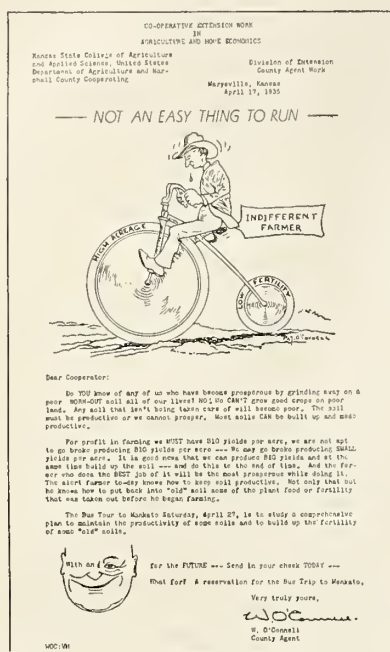
In addition to producing good sheep, the boys have learned the sheep business from the bottom up. They know how to feed, how to fit for show, how to block, how to shear, and how to show. They have had a show flock at the Northwest Fair every year since 1929 and have showed different years at both the Grand Forks and Fargo fairs, winning many ribbons. In the showmanship contests, the members have been very successful, winning first honors at the Northwest Fair every year since 1929. At the State fair at Fargo, a member of the Granville club won first in 1929, and the same honor in 1933 at the State fair at Grand Forks. In 1929 a member was chosen as one of the outstanding livestock members in the State and was given a trip to the International Livestock Show at Chicago.

**T**HE fourteenth annual 4-H club tour broke all attendance records for similar meetings in Illinois between June 9 and 11 when 4,123 club members and their leaders attended the gathering at the College of Agriculture, University of Illinois. Ford County led in county representation with 254 members and leaders.

**H**OME demonstration agents from six South Texas counties report a successful 2-day leisure camp for home demonstration club women at La Quinta Hotel on Corpus Christi Bay. The agents conducting the camp were Effie McClane, Kleberg County; Erma Wines, Jim Wells County; Louise Hogue, Brooks County; Linda Sears, Live Oak County; Dosca Hale, Nueces County; and Apolline Cobb, San Patricio County.

## Picture and Colors Used in

# Effective Circular Letters



**M**ORE and more county agents are singing that song, "I'm going to sit right down and write myself a letter", and they mean circular letters. Maybe they are not bigger and better, but they surely are better letters.

County Agent "Pat" O'Connell of Marshall County, Kans., goes in for illustrations in preparing his circular letters. Although "Pat" has a drawing hand, many of his pictures are copied from various sources to illustrate the chief topic of the letter. Mr. O'Connell says, "I have a filing system of my own, and I save cartoons that I find from time to time and which I think I might use in making up a letter. I sometimes copy, many are original, and some are made up of parts of various cartoons.

"In regard to the reactions from readers, I feel that they enjoy these cartoons much more than they do just a regular letter. I think that they are more apt to stop and read a letter that is cartooned, especially if the illustration is of the story-telling type", continues Mr. O'Connell.

The pictures are not the only outstanding thing about his circular letters. The mimeograph impressions are exceptional, being clear, distinct, and easily

read. The subject-matter material is short, for the most part less than half a page, in concise, well-written paragraphs emphasizing the extension activity under consideration.

Through the use of color, Mr. O'Connell's cartoons are made doubly attractive, and these colored illustrations jump right off the paper to catch your eye. The colors are used as a part of the car-

toon, whereas the balance of the sheet is printed in black. To accomplish the results desired with color, Mr. O'Connell makes use of two stencils in some cases, whereas in others the ink pad of the mimeograph is "spot" colored to get the desired effect. "It takes a bit more work and an extra stencil, in some cases, as well as a variety of colored inks", says Mr. O'Connell, "but it pays in the added interest which the letters carry."

Mr. O'Connell has also found that illustrated posters announcing extension meetings or other projects can be produced very cheaply and in large quantities with his mimeograph.

## What Do Indiana Farm Folks Read?

**W**HAT do men and women on the farm read in their daily papers and how can they be reached more effectively through the news-writing channel is a vital question to the extension agent. Some light is thrown on this old problem by a study conducted in Indiana with 25 daily newspapers by Glenn W. Sample, formerly an assistant county agent, and now assistant in extension publicity in that State.

The study showed that all farmers subscribed to a newspaper, 87 percent to a daily newspaper, and 53 percent to a weekly newspaper. They spent from 10 minutes to 4 hours each day reading their newspapers, or an average of 61 minutes each day. The farmers rated their preference in the kinds of farm news in this order: Farm market news, advice of county extension agent, agricultural-college experiments, agricultural editorials, straight farm news, news of farmer cooperatives, 4-H club news, farm-production records, weekly county-agent notes, articles by local farmers, and local correspondence and announcements. They indicated a general desire for timely and seasonal stories on agricultural subjects. More than 94 percent of the farmers read county-agent weekly news notes in the newspapers.

Farm women indicated great preference for local feature stories about other women. About two-thirds of the farm women included in the study were satisfied with their present newspaper service. They indicated that they would like more hints on timesavers, cooking, churning, budgeting, poultry production, and beautifying the home. In general, there is a desire for more home-economics news and more experiences of other women.

It was shown that in Indiana the daily newspaper had been, except in rare instances, a willing cooperator in the county agricultural extension system, according to the county agents. More than 60 percent of the newspapers sent reporters regularly to cover the county extension agents' offices.

The study was based on letters sent to 125 farmers in 25 counties, 200 letters sent to farmers in all counties, letters sent to 50 vocational agriculture teachers, all county agents, farm organization officials, 25 newspapers, and the officials of the Hoosier State Press Association.

With farmers spending an average of 61 minutes each day on the daily newspaper, reading the county-agent weekly news notes, and with the newspaper as a willing cooperator, it would seem that the opportunities in this field would be well worth developing in any extension county.

**T**HE EXTENSION DIGEST is the name of a new publication launched by the Arkansas Extension Service to service its county agents and home demonstration agents with new subject matter resulting from researches in Arkansas and other States.

The purpose of the Digest, a quarterly publication, is to serve as a clearing house for things new in agriculture and home economics based on conclusive results of investigations by the Arkansas College of Agriculture and results by experiment stations of other States which are applicable to Arkansas. Contributors to this publication are the extension subject-matter specialists and college staff members concerned with research affairs.



Inspecting a fine growth of hairy vetch.

## Builds Up Soil Fertility

COAHOMA COUNTY, MISS., is in the rich delta country. For a long time the farmers thought they had an inexhaustible soil that could not be worn out. In fact, they thought so until about 5 years ago when County Agent Harris Barnes launched his drive to plant legumes and build up the soil in the county. He pointed out that it had been some 40 years since the Mississippi River overflowed this county and restored the fertility to the worn land. He induced a number of farmers to plant winter legumes. For instance, 4 years ago this fall Mr. Anderson, a local planter, put in a small acreage of hairy vetch on land that normally produced approximately 200 pounds of lint cotton per acre. Following a good vetch crop, he averaged approximately 400 pounds of lint per acre on the same land. The next fall he planted two carloads of vetch and peas and last fall about three carloads of winter cover crops.

It doesn't take long for such news to travel nor much encouragement from the county agent to get other farmers to try out the winter cover crops after such a demonstration. Last fall about 50,000 acres of winter legumes were planted and plowed under this spring. There is scarcely a plantation in the county which is not growing some bur-clover, hairy vetch, or Austrian peas. Winter cover crops and soil-improving legumes are now grown and turned under on nearly one-half of every acre in the county planted to cotton. Delegations of farmers from three States have come to see for themselves how Coahoma County is building up its soil fertility.

An important factor in the soil-building program has been the cooperation of other organizations, both of the city and coun-

try. The farm committee of the local chamber of commerce was selected with the advice of the county agent, and included some of the leading farmers, bankers, wholesale and retail merchants, and representatives of the production credit association. These men met with the agent to consider the kind of county program which should be undertaken, as well as methods of getting the cooperation of all the farmers of the county. "It has been my experience", says County Agent Barnes, "that such a committee can do more toward putting over the extension program in 1 year than a county agent can do personally in years



Farmers on tour! Plowing under vetch and bur-clover to make real "pay dirt."

and years. The committee keeps the agent's feet on solid ground and prevents the encouraging of some impractical methods in the county."

More recently the value of summer legumes, such as the late-maturing varieties of soybeans, has claimed the attention of the county leaders interested in soil fertility. The Delta Experiment Station has found that the Mamloxi soybean over a long period of years has produced a greater yield of beans than

any other variety and is a real soil-building bean. The county adopted the Mamloxi soybean for soil-building purposes and for the production of beans for grain.

To start the ball rolling, last year a local cottonseed-oil mill gave to the farm committee 100 bushels of Mamloxi soybeans, which were distributed to farmers of the county in 1- and 2-bushel lots for experimental and demonstration purposes. Seventy farmers tried out the beans on all types of soils and under favorable and unfavorable conditions. Each of the 70 farmers returned to the county agent in the fall the amount of seed which had been given him and saved the rest of the beans for seed purposes. Much valuable experience on the growing of these soybeans in the county has been gained and the data are available to all farmers.

The cotton-acreage-control program has accelerated the progress of the soil-building practices in the county. The acreage removed from cotton has been used to develop a better-balanced system of farming on many plantations. The use of these acres presents a problem which the agent, the committee, and the leading farmers are studying.

Part of the success of the soil-building program is due to the series of feature articles appearing in the papers of Memphis, Tenn.; Jackson, Miss.; and New Orleans, La.; which were written by the

extension editor. They brought in hundreds of letters from farmers in four States which made the local farmers proud of their program and interested in making it work. The farmers of Coahoma County do not have to be convinced of the value of soil conservation. They know what it means in their own county and are ready to work together for a balanced agriculture in the county, the State, and the Nation.

# Emergency Program Aids

## Wind-Eroded States

**A**BOUT half of the land to be listed in the emergency wind-erosion program, or more than 4 million acres, was ready to hold the water on the land before the rains of early summer. The funds for this emergency program were made available to the southern Great Plains area by an act of Congress approved February 29, 1936, and the campaign was started early in March. The States of Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas are cooperating in this work which calls for the listing of 8,252,585 acres of land subject to wind erosion.

Texas stood at the top of the list with 1,300,804 acres listed before the rains, and Colorado was a close second, having listed 1,056,560 acres.

Reports from officials of the Soil Conservation Service and testimony from scores of farmers and ranchmen indicated that the rains can be stored in the soil as an insurance of abundant vegetative growth which alone will hold the soil. One farmer near Conlon, Tex., estimated that  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches of rain fell on his farm during 2 weeks. By actual tests it was found that this moisture penetrated 34 inches into the soil where water was held by contour lister furrows on a field. Moisture penetrated only 21 inches on adjoining land that was not contoured. On contoured pasture land, moisture penetrated to a depth of 33 inches and only 13 inches on pasture that was not contour-furrowed.

Another rancher of Hereford, Tex., had a moisture penetration to a depth of 37 inches on blown-out wheatland listed on the contour after a  $6\frac{1}{2}$ -inch rainfall extending over a period of 10 days. On adjoining wheatland listed in straight rows, the moisture penetration was only 20 inches, showing the advantage of contour listed over land farmed in the ordinary way of 17 inches moisture penetration.

A Colorado farmer found that an average of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches of rain in the month of May resulted in moisture penetration of 44 inches on contoured land as compared with 35 inches on land farmed in straight rows.

At Liberal, Kans., a farmer found that the average moisture penetration was 36 inches on terraced land worked on the contour as compared with 24 inches pene-

tration on adjoining land farmed in the ordinary way.

As vegetation to hold the soil in place is the best insurance against wind erosion, the listing which is saving the moisture in the soils is a big step in the fight against the waste and suffering caused by dust storms.

## Negro Farmers in Alabama

**I**N AN EFFORT to solve the problem of converting the surplus farm produce into cash, and to stimulate further interest in the diversification of crops, the farmers of Macon County, Ala., with the assistance of the county agent, R. T. Thurston, and the home agent, Mrs. L. R. Daly, organized a curb-market association in October 1935.

To begin with, the equipment consisted of two tables placed along the sidewalk of a vacant lot, but the business soon outgrew such limited accommodations, and there arose the need for more adequate facilities. The farmers themselves furnished most of the material and labor for the construction of a curb-market building, which has such conveniences as running water, a rest room, and sufficient counter space for 20 sellers.

The market has operated for 3 hours every Tuesday and Saturday since its opening, with an average of five sellers a day and a monthly receipt of \$60.

The work has been supervised by the State wind-erosion-control committee in each State. Each county in the area subject to wind erosion also set up a county wind-erosion committee which in turn selected one farmer in each township or community as township chairman. Much of the success of the work is due to the efforts and advice of the county agents who were responsible for the educational work and often also served as secretary for the county committee.

Listing the rest of the 8 million acres subject to blowing in the southern Great Plains area will go ahead as rapidly as possible.

## Operate a Curb Market

Among the products that have been made or grown by the rural people, for which they find a ready market, are: Garden, poultry and dairy products; cured meats, sausage, sirup, water-ground meal; potatoes, peas, sugarcane, and such articles of handicraft as split-oak chairs, baskets, walking sticks, shuck mats, children's clothing, and housewives' aprons.

The market is located at Greenwood, a residential section, near Tuskegee Institute.

This effort marks the beginning of a cooperative marketing program for the farmers of Macon County. They have pledged themselves to work with the extension agents toward perfecting an organization, not only for the selling of farm produce, but for the buying cooperatively of such commodities as seeds and fertilizers.



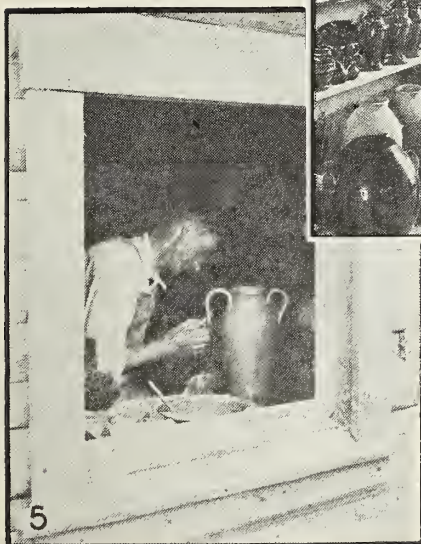
# Using What They Have

**T**HE means for more beautiful and comfortable rural homes lie about us on every hand, frequently unrecognized and undeveloped. Home demonstration agents are helping farm women to recognize and develop them, as these pictures show. Not only in America but all over the world women are beginning to think of a better use of natural resources on the farm for the home and the family. At their recent meeting, the Associated Country Women of the World selected this subject for intensive study during the next 3 years. Perhaps before many years the full utilization of resources and advantages peculiar to the farm may become more general.

. . .

1. An Oklahoma home built from rock picked up on the farm.
2. Thousands of southern farm homes have turned their surplus cotton into excellent mattresses.
3. Hooked rugs from home-grown wool or rags have beautified many a farm home.
4. Oregon women learning to card their own wool from which they make rugs and many other beautiful things for the home.

5. Pottery made from clay found on a North Carolina farm.





A 4-H girls' club in Puerto Rico holds a business meeting.

## Puerto Rico Girls Gather for First Short Course

**E**ARLY in August about 40 girls from every section of Puerto Rico gathered at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras, for their first 4-H club short course. Each girl represented an organized 4-H club and had successfully completed her club work. These girls, as the other 800 girls enrolled in club work on the island, had carried on a production project in raising rabbits or poultry or growing a garden and also two homemaking activities, such as home beautification, clothing, or foods.

The eight home demonstration agents who organize and conduct these clubs came to the university to assist at the short course under the direction of Maria Orcasitas, assistant director of extension work on the island. In addition, six new agents took up their duties by helping during the week and becoming familiar with the work done since July 1, 1934, when extension work was started in Puerto Rico.

### *Members of Faculty Instruct*

Instruction was given in home industries, canning, poultry, and gardening, with the help of some of the university faculty. An interesting feature was the song contest. Many of the old folk songs of the island have been collected and issued in a bulletin by the Extension Service. Each of the club girls coming to the short course learned at least three of these

songs. The beautiful old song which proved the most popular at the song contest is now the 4-H club song of Puerto Rico. A health contest interested the girls in those conditions which make for good health, and contests in other projects such as canning and clothing were very popular.

### *Home-Demonstration Day*

One of the big events of the week was home-demonstration day when women from all sections of the island who have been home demonstrators in canning, in home beautification, or kitchen improvement were invited to come to the university. It was a big day for both the women and the girls.

The home-industries work attracted a great deal of attention. Each agent brought with her samples of the articles which had been made for sale by the women and girls in her district. Many beautiful rugs, mats, articles of embroidery, hand-made lace, and carved native woods, purses of coconut fiber, and unique articles made of tropical products were brought. This gave the women and girls many ideas on standardization of quality and the variety of articles which could be made from native material, and the instruction offered was eagerly received.

In preparing for this first short course, Miss Orcasitas attended the girls' short

course in Florida and visited extension workers in a number of the Southern States and the Federal office in Washington. In successfully completing its first 4-H short course, Puerto Rico, the youngest Extension Service, has passed a milestone in developing a service which will help the rural people of the island to help themselves in arriving at a more satisfactory life.

### **Recipe for Home-made Recreation**

The unique system of rural entertainment in Rusk County, Wis., sponsored by County Agent C. O. Ebling, has created interest in several States. In response to constant demands from leaders of 4-H club, homemaker, and community groups, Mr. Ebling, in cooperation with local school authorities, organized a county program committee which worked out a system for supplying home-made recreation to small communities.

This group meets, getting together all available information that can be used for seasonal programs and parties such as Halloween, Thanksgiving, or Christmas. This material is gone over, and the best is selected for a bulletin prepared by the offices of the county agent and county superintendent of schools. Only material suitable for use in the small schoolroom is selected.

Notices are sent to all community clubs, rural teachers, leaders of 4-H and homemakers' clubs, and parent-teacher associations, asking each organization to send one or two representatives to a meeting at which time the scheduled program is put on as a demonstration, following the program in the prepared bulletin. After the program has been demonstrated, each representative is given a bulletin, and questions are answered regarding the program. Fortified with this assistance, the leaders go back to their communities and, with the help of the bulletin, put on their own programs. In this manner, the programs go into every community in the county. It is estimated that 60 percent of the communities have adopted this method of program presentation.

### **Visual Aids**

Visual aids, such as film strips and charts, from Iowa State College were shown in 6,929 meetings during 1935 before about 636,000 persons.



# My Point of View

## A Good Sign

Never before was agricultural extension work so useful as it is just now in Greene County. We have had the largest number of voluntary office callers asking for information this year of any year in our history.

Because of the A. A. A. program we have been able to convince many people, approximately 500 in all, that the office does have a program in which they are interested, outside of the A. A. A. activities. When we were holding A. A. A. meetings we took time to discuss outlook information pertaining to various projects, and our recommendations have helped the farmer to get better information and yields.

This has come about as a result of co-ordination of the regular and emergency programs.—*C. C. Keller, county agricultural agent, Greene County, Mo.*

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## Yang and Yin Again

The article on page 72 of the May issue of the Extension Service Review seems to give me credit for originating the "Yang and Yin" idea. It was not mine but came from Prof. Belle Northrup, Teachers College, Columbia University.—*Ouida Midkiff, clothing specialist, Miss.*

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## From the County Viewpoint

Carbon County, Wyo., covers 8,007 square miles, and the communities are scattered. The nearest community with a homemakers' group is 42 miles from the county seat and the farthest, 115 miles. These communities are centers unto themselves, and such a county is not only scattered physically but mentally as well.

At a meeting concerned with the development of a county advisory council composed of the presidents and secretaries of the individual homemakers' groups, a plan was devised to help the women see the county as a whole. The secretaries of the clubs went to a wall map and marked with large-headed pins the territory from which their clubs drew

for membership and upon which the work in their clubs exerted an influence. Following this, the presidents filled in on a circular chart the number of homes represented in their club membership, the number of homes not represented in the club memberships but which were influenced by the extension program, and the number of homes not represented in the memberships but which should be represented. These individual circles were joined by lines to a major circle labeled "The County Advisory Council."

This served as an introduction to a discussion of extension problems from a county viewpoint. The council, because of this, was better able to make county decisions and to embark on the development of a coordinated county program.—*John J. McElroy, formerly county agricultural agent, Carbon County, Wyo., and now crops and soils specialist.*

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## Facts from the Record



Two men will live side by side on equally good farms, work equally hard, under the same sun and in the same rain; one will succeed and one will fail. We say it results from good or bad management.

Some men succeed without keeping records. It is true that we can make a long trip without a map and get back in time for dinner without a compass, but these things are a great help to ordinary folks, and most of us are ordinary.

The farm-management service of the Extension Service furnishes the farmer with a record book; they teach him to use it for a minute or two each day; they help him to check the book once each year, and at the end of the year they summarize his farm operations and return his book. He can put his finger on the weak factor of his farm management, and through the recommendations of the Extension Service and his own cooperative efforts corrections can be made.

One man's program was good in every respect, except his income per cow—it was \$24; the average for the other record keepers was \$65. He joined a cow-testing association, a thing he could not see during its 6 years of operation.—*Paul M. Barrett, county agent, Cheboygan, Mich.*

## In Praise of the Potato



Of all the types of 4-H club work in agriculture, the potato club possesses the greatest potentialities in Pennsylvania. First of all, it fits into the needs of most of our communities. The initial cost for a 2-bushel sack of seed is low; the commodity is bulky, not fragile, easily handled and stored both at the beginning and close of the season. Over a period of years the returns are gratifying.

It lends itself admirably to sponsorship by service clubs, chambers of commerce, and similar business groups wishing to further town-country relationships.

Educationally, it embraces the fields of agronomy, botany, entomology, plant pathology, and agricultural economics (grading and marketing).

Field comparisons of disease-free, or certified, seed with home seed provide striking lessons which can be readily seen, hence more vividly appreciated.—*Allen L. Baker, State club leader, Pa.*

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## For and by the 4-H Clubs

The Jamestown, Va., 4-H Girls Club Camp was the scene last week of our fifteenth annual encampment. Members of each club in the county had a definite part assigned to them on the program prior to their coming to the camp—vespers, evening program, recreation, hand work, and the like. The only outside assistance was rendered by a physician and nurse who conducted the health contest, a musical director, and the district agent who helped with work in judging. All camp officials from the director down were 4-H club members, and everyone attending the camp had a definite part in the program.

Even the home demonstration agent had a good time. The only complaint was that of the Negro cook who said, "These here chil'en didn't bring nothing with them but their apple tights."

Without the annual encampment it would be very difficult to carry on the leadership training work in James City County, Va.—*Mabel P. Massey, county home demonstration agent, James City County, Va.*

# Florida Family Makes Record

## in Utilizing Extension Service

A FAMILY enterprise of gardening and canning in Citrus County, Fla., can be traced directly to a 1916 tomato club of Manatee County, Fla., when the Bethea family had their first home-demonstration club work. This self-sustaining home industry, headed by 82-year-old Giles Bethea, is composed of four generations, all directly interested in extension work.

One of the daughters had 2 years' club work in Pasco County, winning second place in her one-tenth acre garden in 1917. Miss Bethea, together with the rest of the family, canned 600 containers of a variety of vegetables in no. 2 cans and 700 in no. 3 cans. They also canned 130 quarts of huckleberries in glass. Another daughter paid her school expenses from her canning and other club work, winning first prize with her one-tenth acre club project, and was one of the short-course scholarship winners at Tallahassee. She was also awarded her certificate for the 4 years' work completed. Leroy Bethea, a son, was in a corn club in 1918. He produced 80 bushels of corn on his club acre and won a short-course scholarship at Gainesville. In 1920 Mattie Bethea was in a tomato club in Alachua County, winning first prize. Grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Mr. Bethea have been club members ever since they were old enough to become members. Two of them have won scholarships to the State short course.

### *Granddaughter a Prize Winner*

Frances Pratt of Gadsden County, Fla., a granddaughter, has an interesting record in 4-H club work also. Winner of the posture contest while in Citrus County, she moved to Gadsden and won the county health contest in 1931 and represented her county in the State contest during girls' 4-H short course each time. Her sister, Annie Laurie Pratt, is now president of the Homosassa Club in Citrus County.

Just to keep up the family reputation, Mrs. Henry W. Bethea, a daughter-in-law of Mr. Giles Bethea, is president of the Alachua County Council of Home Demonstration Work and has been prominent in the work for many years. For the past 4 years she has participated in the State canning and canning-budget



Mr. Bethea, 81 years old, who has been gardening and canning with four generations of descendants ever since one of the Bethea girls joined a tomato club in 1916.

contests among home demonstration women, winning third and second prizes.

Moving to Homosassa, Citrus County, Fla., in 1934 for a winter of fishing and hunting, Mr. Bethea's "yen" for gardening asserted itself a short time after his arrival in late October. He planted a rented plot 40 by 50 feet near his home. In February the family had the first vegetables from his winter garden.

### *Trades Canned Foods*

With the success of this garden he concluded to remain longer than the winter and plant a spring garden. He rented another plot of ground and then a third and soon was operating three different gardens of about 1¼ acres in all. Mr. Bethea did most of the work in the gardens, and his wife and daughters canned the produce.

Mr. Bethea says that his idea and plan is to can enough so that he can trade for other foods which he cannot raise. Accordingly, different vegetables were exchanged with neighbors to insure greater variety for home use. With canned goods and fresh vegetables from their gardens, they bought fruit, including peaches, pears, plums, and figs,

which they also canned. They made jams, preserves, jellies, and marmalades from fruit bought with home-grown vegetables. In addition, there were canned beans exchanged for hens so that the family could have eggs and fryers to eat. Vegetables and canned goods were sold to buy the seed for planting a second time.

Besides the products canned and sold from the gardens, five families were furnished all the vegetables they cared to use and 100 chickens and a pig were fed.

## Effective Annual Report Mimeographed

Presenting a mimeographed annual report to 42 magistrates who constitute the county court was an idea of the extension agents of Washington County, Tenn. Interest of the magistrates was stimulated by the reading of effective achievements in the county extension program which they were able to do at their leisure.

The report began with the part that agriculture takes in the welfare of the county, the general activities of the extension program, 4-H club work, and cooperative marketing, and continued with the results of various cooperative endeavors. The values and results of rural resettlement, agricultural adjustment, soil conservation, and other cooperative enterprises were given prominent consideration. The proper emphasis was given to outstanding material by the use of illustrations and all-capital words, as well as by hand lettering. This report was the work of Raymond Rosson, county agent, and his assistants, Hugh Felts and Vernon Sims.

### *Alpha to Omega*

A "Manual of Group Discussion" that just about covers the subject from "A to Z" has been issued by the University of Illinois College of Agriculture Experiment Station and Extension Service.

It is listed as circular 446 and gives advice, examples, and guides to aid rural groups in organizing and conducting discussion meetings.

Attractively bound in blue paper and containing 184 pages, single copies will be sent free upon request to a limited number of organized groups and offices in Illinois. The circular is available to others at 35 cents a copy.

# Community Achievement Show

## An Outstanding Annual Event

**T**HOUSANDS of Boone County, Iowa, folks look forward to their annual achievement show as a community enterprise, though the show itself is held in the city of Boone.

This show started in 1925 when provisions had to be made for the annual showing of 4-H club exhibits and O. W. Beeler was county agent. "Ever since the beginning," says Harley Walker, the present county agent, "the people of the rural sections and the citizens of Boone have worked together to make the show a success."

The show is managed by the Boone County Agricultural Association, a corporation, which was organized for the sole purpose of holding this annual achievement program. The committees during 1935 received contributions from more than 130 business firms, the county farm bureau, and other sources. The money was used for expenses and prizes which annually amount to between \$2,000 and \$2,500. About one-half of the money comes from State funds, and the balance is provided by local subscriptions and donations.

Several hundred 4-H club boys and

girls exhibit crops, livestock, or home products, depending upon their individual projects. In addition, there is a keen rivalry among adult groups having exhibits at the show.

The Boone Garden Club, a live-wire organization, sponsors the annual flower show as a part of the activity. It is said to be one of the finest flower shows in the State.

The climax of the 3-day achievement program is the annual parade of floats arranged by 4-H clubs, township farm bureaus, business firms, organizations, and individuals. The theme chosen for the 1935 parade was "We build today on yesterday's foundations," and every float in the mile-and-a-half parade contributed to this idea.

"When the last evening comes one pauses for a moment and finds that many different groups and individuals have worked together and spent hours of time for the mutual satisfaction of having a successful achievement day. The show is a means of building close friendships among groups and individuals of the town and county," says County Agent Walker.

after share of surplus has been added to actual sales receipts for steers; or, in case of champion and reserve champion, the 3 percent is calculated after deduction of excess sales receipts from actual selling price.

Through the operation of this plan, 174 4-H baby-beef club members received a bonus of \$2.16 each in the 1935 show and sale.

## Arkansas Extension Work Reaches 25 Percent of Farm Women

A home-demonstration club member in almost one-quarter of all Arkansas rural homes, or, to be exact, 24.59 percent, was the record of home demonstration agents in Arkansas in 1935. Each of these 42,351 women undertook a demonstration on her own farm or home with the advice and help of the home-demonstration agent and State staff. The women were organized in 1,663 home-demonstration clubs, a record number of clubs in the State.

The southeast district, with 375 home-demonstration clubs and a total of 9,249 members, led the rest in the percentage of farm homes carrying on a home demonstration with 31.66 percent of the rural homes in the county represented in the home-demonstration clubs.

The second place was held by the southwest district, with 333 clubs representing 24 percent of the farm homes in the district. The enrollment was 8,903 members. In the northwest district, which was third, 518 clubs were organized with a total membership of 12,156 women, representing 23.28 percent of the rural homes in the district.

Through 439 home-demonstration clubs in the northeast district, the fourth ranking district, a total of 12,043 members conducted home demonstrations in 22.4 percent of the farm homes of the district.

In addition to home-demonstration clubs, county home demonstration agents worked with 155 other adult groups, not organized as home-demonstration clubs but doing essentially the same work and having a total enrollment of 6,429 members.

The number of farm women regularly enrolled in home-demonstration club work has steadily increased from 2,000 members in 1914 to the present enrollment of more than 42,000 members. Each year the total enrollment of home-demonstration club members for the State has shown an increase over the previous year since 1914 of not less than 2,000 members each year.

## Equitable Distribution

### Of 4-H Prize Money in Pennsylvania

**I**N ORDER to avoid the harmful influence of excessive prices paid for advertising purposes for champion and reserve champion steers exhibited by 4-H club members and to provide equitable distribution of such excessive prices to all members who have striven for the championship and are entitled to their share of the rewards, the following plan has been worked out in the Pennsylvania 4-H Livestock Show and Sale, reports Allen L. Baker, State club leader.

The owner of the grand champion steer receives a sum equal to double the sale average price per pound, provided the sale of the grand champion is made at a figure equal to or in excess of that figure. By "sale average" is meant the average price per pound received at the State farm show sale for all 4-H club steers except grand champion and reserve champion.

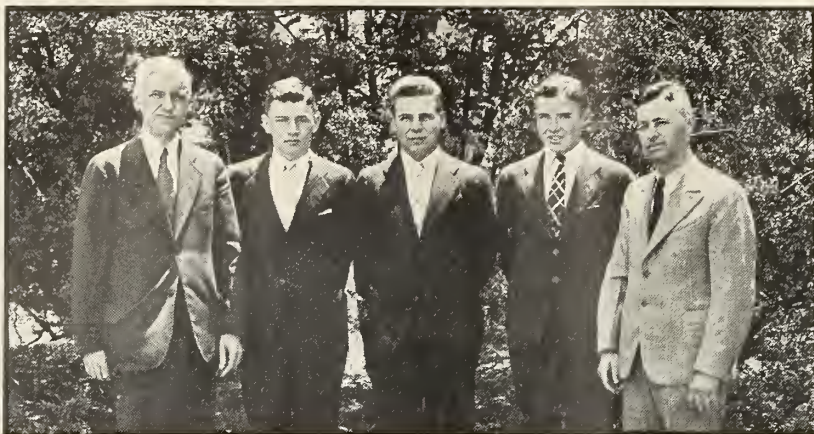
The owner of the reserve champion receives one and one-half times the sale

average price per pound, provided sale is made at a figure equal to or in excess of that amount.

In no case will members receive more than one and one-half times the sale average, even though higher prices may be bid for their animals. Amounts in excess of one and one-half times the sale average paid for such animals will be added to the fund to be prorated among all members.

The total of sums in excess of twice sale average for grand champion and one and one-half times sale average for reserve champion shall be divided equally among all the remaining members who have competed for State show honors, including those eliminated in county round-ups.

Three percent of net amount due each member shall be deducted by the management to cover expense of hay, grain, bedding, auctioneer, and sales expense. This 3 percent deduction is to be made



Director Warburton greets the national champion dairy judging team of Iowa with their county agent, Paul Barger, of Waterloo, Iowa, just before they sail for England to compete in an international dairy judging contest.

## The Tie That Binds

**A**FTER the Jasper County, Iowa, Blue Ribbon Snatchers' 4-H Club business meeting was over at the club agent's home one evening in the summer of 1934, one of the boys said, "Let's gather around the old piano and have a sing." At the close of that little "sing" the club agent and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Knaupp, invited the boys back for a quartet try-out.

Before long a bass, tenor, and second tenor were selected, and Mr. Knaupp filled the place of baritone in the 4-H club quartet. The boys making up the quartet were Max Kreager, bass; Paul Knaupp, club agent, baritone; Earl Atwood, second tenor; and Lester Davis, tenor.

"It is interesting that members of the quartet are all from one club, The Blue Ribbon Snatchers. I also feel confident that Max, the bass, joined the club very largely because of the quartet and now is one of the outstanding members in regular project work", says County Agent Leonard Zahn.

The first public appearance was at the Jasper County 4-H club achievement show in August 1934. The boys became quite popular following their first public appearance and were called to sing at Kiwanis, the chamber of commerce, and other clubs in Newton. They also sang at club and township meetings throughout the county, including the annual club banquet.

The boys also sang at the State 4-H club convention held at Iowa State College in December 1934. Radio broad-

casting was a new experience, but the home folks reported it sounded as well as the original Mills Brothers.

Reorganization of the quartet became necessary when Mr. and Mrs. Knaupp were employed in another county. Josephine Wormley, capable musician, came to the rescue and volunteered to coach the quartet. Her brother, Richard, filled the baritone vacancy left by Mr. Knaupp.

Since the beginning of the new organization, this quartet has been busy appearing on a great number of programs, some in other counties, including township meetings, club gatherings, service clubs, and the Iowa State Fair. These opportunities have broadened their acquaintance and friendships with Iowa 4-H club boys and girls.

All members of the quartet completed club projects in 1934 and 1935 and are now feeding baby beeves and colts for their 1936 project.

### Insular Conservation

The soil-conservation and domestic-allotment program has been extended to include Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico, as was provided in section 17 (a) of the act. An insular division within the Agricultural Adjustment Administration will administer the program. No payments are provided for the diversion of land from cash or home-consumption crops, but payments will be made for following approved soil-conservation practices during 1936.

## Steer Feeders' Tour

One of the leading steer-feeding counties in the United States is still working on better methods of feeding, reports County Agent Louis G. Hall, of Lenawee County, Mich. This county normally feeds 500 carloads of cattle which have a finished value at normal prices of a million dollars, according to Elmer A. Beamer, president of the Michigan Livestock Exchange.

The annual county cattle tour and cattle-feeders' banquet is the big event in the extension program for cattle feeders and successfully brings to a focus the work of the year. The tour and banquet are planned by the county agent assisted by a committee of local feeders. Complete information on the cattle to be seen on the tour, the feed which has been used and the gains made are mimeographed and made available to farmers before the date of the tour. About 12 stops were made on this year's tour, held early in June, with between 100 and 125 farmers making the 12 stops and displaying great interest in the results obtained by the different methods of feeding.

After the tour the banquet was held in the community church, with 165 farmers from southern Michigan and northern Ohio and stockmen from Detroit, Toledo, Buffalo, and Cleveland attending. The program included discussion of the feeders' problems and the various methods which were being tried out.

## What Does the Sociologist Do?

A group conference of the sociologists of the Central States, meeting in connection with the regional conference, decided that there were three principal characteristics of the work being done by extension sociologists.

First, the rural organization work involving community planning, work with farmers' organizations and rural institutions, and conferences with rural leaders.

Second, the home and community activities, including the leisure-time programs for home and community groups, which will supply enriching cultural experiences for rural people.

Third, the sociological service which is supplied through conferences and committee work and interpretations of rural life studies. This is a service which emphasizes certain techniques bearing upon group adjustment. The democratic process of analyzing and projecting "collective forethought" is its special concern.

## 4-H Club Members Learn to Conserve Wildlife



Girls at the Massachusetts 4-F camp study what flies over the brook, what is in the brook, and what is on the banks of the brook.

**D**URING 1935 more than 100,000 boys and girls in 10 States participated in an active conservation-of-wildlife program. Other States stressed nature study in their camps and outings.

Individuals and clubs carry on a wide variety of activities, the kind depending upon the local situation and the particular interests of the boys and girls.

There are two general approaches that are being used in setting up a 4-H conservation program. In some States, as in Minnesota, the conservation of wildlife is a general activity comparable to music and drama, and is carried on by every 4-H club member. In other States, as in Oregon and Iowa, definite conservation projects are devised which are on a par with the clothing and baby-beef projects.

Perhaps the big strides made by Minnesota, the Dakotas, Nebraska, Missouri, and Kansas in their conservation-of-wildlife programs is due to the fact that no definite enterprise was set up. The individual was put on his own to go as far as fancy and interest carried him. It taxed his ingenuity, and the results have had a far-reaching influence. This method has reached a larger number of individuals. It is estimated that in 1935 the results of 4-H conservation activities of 1,000 members in North Dakota were more than equivalent to the work which would be done by a full-time worker. In Martin County, Minn., 4-H members rescued 3,590 pheasant and Hungarian partridge eggs from broken nests during haying season. The eggs were turned over to the State game farm at Madelia for hatching.

The definite-project approach limits the number who take up the work but gives more intensive training. Last year, in the 4-H Wildlife Propagation and Conservation Club, operating in 10 counties of Washington State, 3,000 pheasants' eggs were distributed to 84 members in 12 standard clubs by the State game commission. In addition to rearing the birds, the boys were re-

quired to carry out three other phases of wildlife conservation. Massachusetts had 908 members in 75 standard clubs in 12 counties doing "4-F" work (furs, feathers, fins, and forests), as the conservation project was named. Oregon conducted a rodent-control project in several counties. In Lane County alone, 42,817 rodents were destroyed in a 2-month contest. Utah enrolled 94 in a pheasant-rearing project outlined by the State poultry specialist.

In some States the 4-H club program correlates nature-appreciation and conservation work closely with current projects. For instance, Texas girls use autumn leaves for hooked-rug patterns; New Jersey 4-H club members tie up nature work with the forestry project, and Wisconsin girls gather wild berries for their canning projects.

### County Agricultural Club Strengthens Farm Programs

Warren County, Ohio, has a most unique farmers' club, called the "Warren County Agricultural Club", organized more than a year ago. According to Lester J. Miller, county agricultural agent, this club was an outgrowth of the desire of A. A. A. committeemen to meet more frequently to discuss their problems and receive up-to-date information.

The club was organized with a charter membership of 50 farmers. At the second meeting a constitution and by-laws were adopted, and officers were elected. Their meetings are held the second Tuesday night of each month. Dinner is served at 7:30 p. m., and the

remainder of the evening is spent in educational and recreational activities. This club has members from each of the 11 townships and representatives from all farm organizations in the county.

At each meeting the members of one particular township are designated to arrange the program and take charge of it for the following month. This group elects a program chairman and plans the next meeting. The programs have varied from month to month, but all have been exceedingly good. Some have been good talks with discussion afterwards, and several have been in the form of panel discussions. At the December meeting the ladies were invited and a Christmas party was held. At one meeting, the members of the local Rotary Club were invited. The program consisted of musical entertainment and a very fine address by Hon. John W. Bricker, attorney general of the State of Ohio.

The farmers are interested, for they continued the monthly meetings all last summer with an attendance of more than 40 at every meeting.

This club is now sponsoring a 4-H beef-breeding calf club in Warren County. They are setting up plans for a complete program and will assist in selecting and financing the heifer calves and will help to supervise the entire club program.

As its membership represents all the farm organizations and farm interests, its board of directors consisting of five members has been designated as the agricultural extension committee of the county. Mr. Miller, county agricultural agent, states that this committee has cooperated with him 100 percent and that the members have been of much service in planning and carrying out the agricultural extension program in Warren County.

### A Country Life Conference

Pennsylvania's first country life conference was scheduled for August 24 to 27 at Newton Hamilton, Mifflin County, according to Willis Kerns, extension rural sociologist in Pennsylvania and a member of the program committee.

The object of the conference was to focus attention on the purposes and goals of country life and to aid in their attainment, to act as a clearing house for the pooling of ideas and resources of rural leaders of Pennsylvania, and to aid in coordinating the work of agencies and agents engaged in this field.

## Homemaker on Trial

This year the reports at our annual county-wide homemakers' meetings were given in the form of a mock trial of one of the outstanding homemakers in Bell County, Ky. Of course, no one could believe she was guilty of being a delinquent homemaker. However, by the time the "prosecuting attorney" had presented her witnesses, the county clothing leader, and the county 4-H club secretary, the audience was ready for the "defense attorney" to get busy. The first witness for the defense was the home-improvement leader who had material evidence with her in the form of two scatter rugs, one of good design, the other a design of large red roses on a yellow rug with a green border. The home-improvement leader testified that the homemaker on trial had selected the rug of good design for her living room after the first lesson in the project, "Background in the livable home."

The next witness for the defense was the county foods leader. Not only did she tell of the foods work among Bell County homemakers, but she told of the achievement of the homemaker on trial. She emphasized the fact that the defendant had three healthy children that were fed as directed by the foods specialist from the University of Kentucky, and that she had a well-stocked cellar of home-canned products, as did many other homemakers in Bell County.

After the witnesses had been heard, the defendant told of the county, district, and State meetings in which she and the Bell County homemakers had taken part. The lawyers then pleaded the case, and it was turned over to the jury of foods leaders. The verdict was "not guilty."

## For Value Received

What is the value of boys' 4-H club work? Some people say that it keeps the boy out of mischief; others say it is a good education, and still others that it is the money won at fairs and received from sale of livestock and other products.

But outstanding club boys themselves apparently place little emphasis on the premiums won and money obtained from the sale of livestock and grain. When four club boys in northwestern Iowa were interviewed by a committee attempting to choose one of the Iowa delegates to the National Club Congress at Chicago, they never mentioned the money gained as being among the most important values of club work.

The committee that interviewed the boys asked "What has been the greatest

value of 4-H club work to you?" John Quist, of the boys' 4-H club department of the Iowa Extension Service, says that the boys' answers may be summed up as follows: New acquaintances made at county, State, and national club events; knowledge of caring for and managing livestock; ability to talk before a group, conduct a business meeting, and work with other people. Club work has given the boys more confidence in themselves.

The boys interviewed have had considerable experience in 4-H club work, and their statements were made from knowledge and contact with club activities and projects.

## Sound Movie Films To Be Club Camp Feature

Recently purchased 16-mm sound-film equipment, intended for year-round use, is being used effectively by Mississippi extension workers during their summer schedule of county and State 4-H club camps. The equipment is operated by an engineer who is a member of the extension staff.

A selection of movies of interest to 4-H club boys and girls are being shown wherever facilities are available. The club camp schedule covers the period from June 8 to September 1.

## The Record of a Leader

A record to be proud of is that of Jesse Johnson, Polk County, Oreg., for the past 12 years leader of the Elkins Jersey Calf Club. For every 1 of those 12 years the club has finished 100 percent.

With an average enrollment of 12 boys each year, 32 different boys have been members of the club under his leadership. Eighteen of them have now grown to manhood. Five different livestock judging teams from his club have represented Polk County at either the State fair or the Pacific International Livestock Exposition at Portland. This past year every member of the club exhibited their Jerseys at the county fair.

Taking a strong personal interest in the efforts and achievements of his club members, Mr. Johnson has for the past 3 or 4 years presented a purebred Jersey calf from his own herd to the boy in his club whom he considered most deserving. This year he is making his award county-wide, offering a purebred Jersey calf to the club member in the county who turns in the best report of his or her work for the year.

Mr. Johnson is president of the Polk County 4-H Local Leaders' Association.

## 34 States Cooperate In National Poultry- Improvement Plan

September marks the first anniversary of the "National Poultry-Improvement Plan", and it seems to have found the keys to success, for it has been adopted in 34 States during this short period.

Based upon purely voluntary participation, the plan aims to improve the stock of baby chicks through improved practices among breeders and hatcherymen. The plan deals with breeding, pullorum disease control, and sanitation. It seeks to improve egg production through breeding and reduce losses among chicks through pullorum disease control.

As revised at a meeting held in May 1935, four classifications are included. These classifications enable almost every poultry producer to take part in the program. The rules for the lowest rating, United States Approved Flocks, are rather easily followed, whereas those for the highest rating, Register of Merit, require strict handling of the birds and accurate individual records of production on the progeny of all birds.

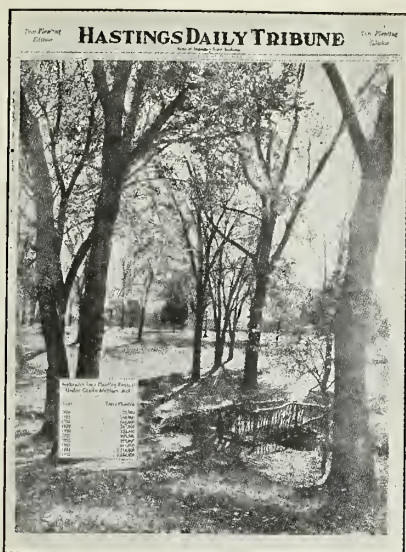
The pullorum-control plan is divided into three stages: pullorum tested, pullorum passed, and pullorum clean. Here again the three classifications allow for wide participation.

Only two States have adopted the complete plan, New Jersey and Washington, the other States taking a varying number of the steps to reach the final perfection offered through the improvement plan.

Primarily, the plan is set up for breeders, flock owners, and hatcherymen, and it allows the participants to use the terms of the ratings in advertising in order that buyers may have standards by which they can judge the quality of the chicks purchased, regardless of the section of the country in which they live.

Berley Winton, senior coordinator, and P. B. Zumbro, assistant, have been appointed to positions as coordinators in the United States Department of Agriculture. Both of these men have been extension poultry specialists—Mr. Winton in Missouri and Mr. Zumbro in Ohio. Each participating State will have an official State agency and inspectors, as well as the cooperation of the State extension poultry specialists.

At a recent meeting held in New Hampshire, more than 150 poultrymen spent 1 day in school. They were instructed in judging, culling, and breed improvement, this being a part of the effort to enable them to obtain the higher ratings for breed improvement under the relatively new plan.



The daily and weekly press gave strong support to the tree-planting program as the front page of this special edition of a local paper shows.

# Tree Planting Gets Real Start

## Nebraska Rallies All Forces in Support of Its Tremendous Program

**H**OW NEBRASKA has forged ahead in 10 years to stimulate active interest in tree planting is told by George Round, the State assistant extension editor.

Back in 1926 this program started in Nebraska under the direction of Clayton W. Watkins, extension forester at the college at that time. Records show that only 33,900 seedlings—broadleaf and evergreen—were distributed that year. Gradually, through the efforts of all people, the movement has grown. In 1929, 707,000 trees were put out to farmers. This number increased annually until it hit a new high of 1,114,500 in 1934. It slumped slightly in 1935, following the devastating drought of 1934, but this year it again shows a remarkable increase. More than 1,500,000 trees have been planted.

These seedlings, by virtue of the Clarke-McNary congressional act, go to farmers for 1 cent each. This pays the packing and shipping charges. Pines are grown at the Nebraska National Forest at Halsey. Broadleaf trees are bought through the nurserymen. The farmers do their own planting upon technical advice from the college. Growing of the trees is their responsibility.

In addition demonstration plantings were made in a number of counties. The county agent selected several co-operators who received the trees free in return for their promise to plant and care for the trees according to directions. These plantings are showing how trees can be successfully grown in Nebraska and their value in conserving moisture, protecting the crops and controlling wind erosion.

Earl Maxwell, extension forester, who succeeded Clayton Watkins when the latter went to the shelterbelt project, has had charge of the program for the past 2 years. His farm-forestry program has made great advances on the foundation built during previous years. Today wonderful windbreaks and wood lots scattered throughout Nebraska are a tribute to Clarke-McNary distribution.

Probably outstanding in the cooperative spirit of the distribution campaign is the cooperation of the weekly and daily press. A competitive spirit is developed through counties by publication of lists of trees requested by counties each week several months in advance of shipment. All papers carry this information. Agents know how their counties rank with surrounding counties. In addition, daily newspapers in Nebraska have been unusually keen in their cooperative efforts behind this program. The largest dailies run approximately three half-page feature stories regarding the movement in advance of shipment. Other dailies issue special tree editions.

A fitting example of how such an edition can help to boost interest is found at Hastings. There a publisher, Henry G. Smith, is one of the most enthusiastic tree planters in the State. Each year he gets actively behind the program. His paper circulates widely in the southwestern part of the State, and it is interesting to note that many of the counties in that area are among the top-notchers in this program.

Each year Publisher Smith assigns one of his reporters to write a tree story each day for several weeks before distribution. Numbers of trees requested are tallied. Individuals ordering trees are named through the columns of the paper.

Just before the "dead line" for accepting applications for trees, the Hastings Daily Tribune comes out with a special tree edition. The outside pages are printed in green. A huge picture adorns the cover page. Throughout the publication appear pictures and stories about local achievements in planting Clarke-McNary trees. The State extension editor at the college of agriculture assists with this publication.

This is but one example—but an outstanding one—of how everyone in Nebraska cooperates to make Clarke-McNary tree planting popular. Behind the whole program is Earl G. Maxwell, a quiet individual who lays claim to no credit for the project's popularity. He is a lover of the out-of-doors though, and has done a good job.

With such cooperation, Nebraska is bound to remain "the Tree Planters' State."

**T**HE TREE PLANTERS' State—that's the Nebraska which today is rapidly forging to the lead in showing other States how to operate a farm-forestry program which produces real, tangible results and which gains the attention of all its citizens and gets men, women, and children actually "tree minded."

Perhaps it is natural that the "Cornhusker" State should lead the Union in tree planting. J. Sterling Morton, one-time Secretary of Agriculture, was a native Nebraskan and founded Arbor Day which is celebrated annually throughout the world. Today Arbor Lodge near Nebraska City is dedicated to his heroic efforts in getting trees planted.

Each year millions of seedlings are put into windbreak and woodlot plantings in every Nebraska county. Schoolhouse grounds are being planted, hopeful that in the near future they will be protected by fine windbreaks which will also serve to beautify the grounds. 4-H forestry clubs are studying trees. Thousands of private plantings on farms and in cities and towns are now being made.

Out in front, head and shoulders above the crowd, is Nebraska in creating tree-planting interest. One of the big reasons is the development of a sound Clarke-McNary tree distribution program by the extension service of the college of agriculture, University of Nebraska. Here is a program based on cooperation. It doesn't miss. The State nurserymen's association, the daily and weekly press, county agricultural agents, farmers, radio stations, and everyday "laymen" contribute to this fine cooperative movement.

## Swat the Parasite

This past year Clare County, Mich., has placed considerable emphasis on the control of livestock parasites. Through letters and news stories farmers were advised of the materials to procure for the purpose and the amounts needed. A follow-up letter was a reminder to repeat treatments when required. The Hatton pest club, believed to be the first organized "swat the parasite" group in America, has successfully functioned in Hatton Township, an isolated community of 20 farmers. Each farmer was given a mimeographed chart showing the proper time of the year, methods, and materials to use for combating all parasites affecting farm livestock. The men elected officers, took sign-up sheets for absent neighbors, and launched a real drive against every known kind of lice and internal parasites of hogs, cattle, sheep, and horses.

## For Professional Improvement

A bibliography of extension education, "Suggested List of Books for Extension Workers Interested in Professional Improvement", Misc. Ext. Pub. 29, is now available for distribution by the Federal Extension Service, Washington, D. C. This circular, prepared by Erwin H. Shinn, senior agriculturist, extension studies and teaching, briefly reviews a limited number of books pertaining to extension work and methods, education, psychology, economics, sociology, and recreation. An attempt has been made to select a few books in each field which will be helpful to extension workers interested in reading for professional improvement.

## Re: Older Youth

For several years Wisconsin has encouraged and promoted work with young people beyond club age. Six counties have done outstanding work in interesting the young people of this group, each having a different plan. Rock County established a 5th-H club, assigning two or three particular projects, such as keeping farm records, beautifying the home, and leadership of 4-H clubs. Marinette County put special emphasis on improving livestock, farm crops, standard-bred poultry, and certified potatoes. Milwaukee County made their record of work with older girls' home-

project activities. Waukesha County organized their young people from 18 to 24 in a specific group and specialized in group discussion. Portage County continued with their single organization, county-wide in scope, known as Eutopia, and patterned after the Kentucky plan. Dodge and Columbia Counties organized groups of young men beyond club age, for the purpose of discussing the topics of farm appraisals, tax rolls, mortgages and liens, wills, and estates.

## Cooperation Helps All

The 4-H club girls interested in the sewing project near Houma in Terrebonne Parish, La., are the proud owners of a new sewing machine. Through the cooperative efforts of the parish superintendent, the school principal, the club girls, and others, the purchase was made possible. Most of the girls had been sewing by hand, and their activities were limited.

## AMONG OURSELVES

DIRECTOR WARBURTON was selected as one of the official representatives of the Department of Agriculture to attend the sixth World's Poultry Congress at Leipzig, Germany. His itinerary includes a tour of Germany as a part of the congress program. While in Europe, Director Warburton planned to visit England and Denmark to study agricultural conditions in those countries. He returned to the United States August 20.

SOON AFTER County Agent J. J. McElroy of Carbon County, Wyo., was appointed crops and soils specialist for the State Extension Service, he prepared a special number of the mimeographed "Carbon County Extension News Letter" in which he introduced the new county agent, T. J. Snyder, formerly of Moffat County, Colo. The introduction included the details of Mr. Snyder's training and experience which fitted him for the county agent's post. It also contained a brief summary of extension progress in Carbon County during the 9 years that Mr. McElroy was county agent.

## Soup for School Children

The canning of soup mixture for school lunches by 14 communities in Halifax County, Va., proved so successful that 5 additional community canning centers were established for that purpose. Many school leagues and parent-teacher associations are buying equipment for serving soup. For 3 winter months hot soup was furnished 3 times a week to 1,303 children. The good effects of this were shown during an epidemic of measles which closed a number of schools. According to the county superintendent of schools and the county health doctor, this soup proved most beneficial to the children returning to school in a weakened condition. One-third of the children reached were of the underprivileged group.

## Seeds Tested

All records for seed corn testing in Indiana were broken during the spring of 1936. Some idea of the quantity of corn tested may be gained by the number of ears tested in several counties. In Tippecanoe County more than 300,000 ears were tested, in Morgan County 202,660 ears, in Bartholomew County 125,000 ears, and in several counties more than 100,000 ears were tested. County extension agents were active in spreading information by every available medium to meet an acute situation in damaged seed corn.

## Achievement Day

The women of the Nassau County, N. Y., Home Bureau assembled an exhibit of "The Family Living Room" from furnishings completed in the home bureau classes, for the Associated Country Women of the World. Before being shipped to Washington it was set up as a part of the achievement day program, and more than 500 women of the county came to see it.

## Road Reports

Extension Echoes, the New York extension workers' house organ, carries reports of road conditions throughout the State as an aid to specialists, county agents, and others planning field trips.



## FARM WOMEN WILL LEAD THE WAY

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

**A**LL MY LIFE the contacts I have had with rural women have interested me. In the early days, the ancestors of our rural women settled this country; they made it possible for the men to conquer the hardships of the New World. For many years after that the farm was a small independent unit having few contacts with the outside, but now the rural women of America, as well as those of other nations, are learning that living in this modern world must be a cooperative venture.

**T**HE women on the farm are used to thinking of the simple basic things of life and, therefore, are in a position to be leaders in the working out of a new civilization which will require the best efforts of farm women everywhere, thinking and working together for the good of their community, for the home and family.

**E**VERY nation has its own problems to meet. A better understanding of the problems facing rural women in other countries will help good international relationships. It is not enough to desire a friendly world, but the farm women must go further and learn of economic conditions which affect international relations. It is surprising how many immediately touch the home farm in the far corners of the world. The economic, the social, the educational, and the recreational conditions in every country go to make the family life of that country, and the family life is the making of every nation. A knowledge of the conditions affecting the home and family life in the home community and in the larger communities of State, Nation, and the world should be the goal of organized farm women.

**P**ERHAPS the farm women of today can put into their efforts to create a better home some of the same sort of efforts that their ancestors put into the founding of a great nation.



### *Which Is Yours?*

The Public Health Service issues many useful and authoritative pamphlets dealing with the prevention of disease. It does not offer advice concerning treatment of the sick, believing this to be an exclusive function of a local physician who can examine and observe the patient at frequent intervals.

*For a list of available publications, some of which are free, write to the Surgeon General, United States Public Health Service, Washington, D. C.*



# PREVENT ILLNESS

THE United States Public Health Service promotes personal and community health through close association with State and local health organizations. . . . When you desire answers to your public health problems consult first your own full-time county health officer. If such an official is not available, present your queries to the State department of health and ask how adequate local and personal public health service may be obtained.

**FULL-TIME HEALTH SERVICE**  
*is needed in YOUR COMMUNITY*



**SURGEON GENERAL, U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, WASHINGTON, D. C.**